

CLAIMS:

1. Method for creating an icon (11, 12), representing a group of images comprising a plurality of images (1, 2, ..., N), where the icon is composed of a selection of images from that group of images, characterised in that the method comprises:

- determining a relative importance (I_1, \dots, I_N) of each image (1, 2, ... N) and
- generating an icon composed of a selection of images based on the determined relative importance of each image.

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2. Method of creating an icon according to claim 1, where the relative importance of each image (1, 2, ..., N) is determined based on at least one of:

- the time span an image is displayed,
- the presence of manual annotations,
- number of times an image has been selected for a slide show,
- number of copies that have been printed and/or sent,
- explicit user rating,

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- rareness in the collection measured using image similarity,
- presence of faces (or other objects) detected with automatic face (object) detection.

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3. Method according to claim 1, where the number of images that is incorporated in the icon is selected based on the determined relative importance (I_1, \dots, I_N) of each image (1, 2, ... N).

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4. Method according to claim 1, where the layout of the icon is selected based on the determined relative importance (I_1, \dots, I_N) of each image (1, 2, ... N).

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5. Method according to claim 1, where the size of each selected image in the icon is proportional to the relative importance (I_1, \dots, I_N) of each image (1, 2, ... N).

6. Method according to claim 1, where the position of each selected image in the icon depends on the relative importance (I_1, \dots, I_N) of each image (1, 2, ..., N).

7. Method according to claim 1, where the group of images comprises a plurality 5 of stills from a movie.

8. Method according to claim 1, where the group of images comprise a plurality of icons, for instance representing a group of images, a movie, a computer program or application.

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9. Method according to claim 8, where the icon is a desktop.

10. Method according to claim 1, where the method further comprises
- determining a relative order based on the determined relative importance of
15 each image.

11. Computer system (100) comprising processing means (12) and memory means (13, 14, 15, 16), the processing means (12) being arranged to communicate with the memory means (19, 18, 24, 23, 22), the computer system (100) being arranged to create an icon (11, 20 12), representing a group of images comprising a plurality of images (1, 2, ..., N), where the icon is composed of a selection of images from that group of images, characterised in the following

- the processing means (12) is arranged to determine a relative importance (I_1, \dots, I_N) of each image (1, 2, ..., N) and
25 - the processing means (12) is arranged to generate an icon composed of a selection of images based on the determined relative importance of each image.

12. Computer program product to be loaded by a processor in a computer system (100), the computer system comprising processing means (12) and memory means (13, 14, 30 15, 16), the processing means (12) being arranged to communicate with the memory means (19, 18, 24, 23, 22), the computer program product being arranged to carry out a method for creating an icon (11, 12), representing a group of images comprising a plurality of images (1, 2, ..., N), where the icon is composed of a selection of images from that group of images, characterised in that the method comprises:

- determining a relative importance (I_1, \dots, I_N) of each image (1, 2, ... N) and
- generating an icon composed of a selection of images based on the determined relative importance of each image.

5 13. Data carrier comprising a computer program product in accordance with claim 12.

14. Method for determining a relative order of a group of images comprising a plurality of images (1, 2, ..., N), characterised in that the method comprises:

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- determining a relative importance (I_1, \dots, I_N) of each image (1, 2, ... N) and
- determining the relative order based on the determined relative importance of each image.